BATTLE OVER PHONE

After President Kennedy was shot, William Manchester writes in "The Death of a President," a bitter fight broke out in the press pool car between Merriman Smith of UPI and Jack Bell of AP.

According to Manchester, in the Look magazine serialization of his book, Smith grabbed the radiotelephone and scored a beat by informing the Dallas bureau of UPI that shots had been fired at the motorcade. Manchester said Smith then continued to use the phone despite Bell's demands.

The car was weaving as Bell sought the phone and Smith listened to an operator read back his story. Finally, according to the author, Smith put the phone between his knees, and when Bell finally pulled it free after striking the driver and press secretary Mac Kilduff—the line was dead.

The Valet's Reminder

After President Kennedy left Air Force One to begin the Dallas motorcade, his valet, George Thomas, took steps to prepare a reminder to the President that he could look forward to some relaxation.

The next stop was Austin, and then the Johnson ranch. So in addition to laying out a fresh suit for the first stop, Thomas put out a pair of khaki pants, a sweater and a sport shirt for the President to wear at the ranch, as recounted in the Look magazine serialization of William Manchester's book, "The Death of a President."